AMEDNMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-8, 25-32 and 49-68 are pending. All claims continue unamended. No new matter has been added. A complete listing of the pending claims is provided below and supersedes all previous claim lists.

1. (previously presented) A method of aggregating a plurality of entries in a table in a database management system into an aggregated entry in the table or another table in the database management system, the method comprising:

　　making the aggregated entry, by using a processor, the aggregated entry representing the plurality of entries and including a first field whose value is a metric value computed from a set of individual values of a field in the plurality of entries and a second field whose set value is a representation of the set of individual values, the metric value having the property that the individual values from which the metric value was computed cannot be derived from the metric value and the representation of the individual values having the property that the individual values are derivable therefrom, so that a single entry comprises both the metric value and the set value, wherein at least some of the individual values are lost with the metric value and the individual values are not lost with the set value.

2. (original) The method set forth in claim 1 further comprising the step of:

　　deleting the plurality of entries represented by the aggregated entry.

3. (previously presented) The method set forth in claim 1 wherein:

　　the second field's value has a size which varies with the number of the individual values.

4. (previously presented) The method set forth in claim 3 wherein:

　　The second field's value is a character string, the character string comprising a sequence of characters for each individual member of the set, and separator characters separating each sequence of characters.

5. (previously presented) The method set forth in claim 1 wherein:

the second field's value has a size which is constant regardless of the number of the individual members in the set.

6. (previously presented) The method set forth in claim 5 wherein:

the second field's value comprises a string of elements, the string of elements having an element corresponding to each potential value of the individual values that belong to the set, the presence of a particular individual value in the set being indicated by a first value of the corresponding element and the absence of the particular individual value from the set being indicated by a second value of the corresponding element.

7. (previously presented) The method set forth in claim 1 wherein:

the individual values are time values.

8. (previously presented) The method set forth in claim 1 wherein:

the individual values are location values.

9-24. (cancelled)

25. (previously presented) A data storage device, characterized in that:

the data storage device contains code which when executed by a processor performs aggregation of a plurality of entries in a table in a database management system into an aggregated entry in the table or another table in the database management system, the code comprising instructions for:

making the aggregated entry, the aggregated entry representing the plurality of entries and including a first field whose value is a metric value computed from a set of individual values of a field in the plurality of entries and a second field whose set value is a representation of the set of individual values, the metric value having the property that the individual values from which the metric value was computed cannot be derived from the metric value and the representation of the individual values having the property that the individual values are derivable therefrom, so that a single entry comprises both the metric value and the set value,

wherein at least some of the individual values are lost with the metric value and the individual values are not lost with the set value.

26. (previously presented) The data storage device set forth in claim 25 further characterized in that the code further comprises:
instructions for deleting the plurality of entries represented by the aggregated entry.

27. (previously presented) The data storage device set forth in claim 25 further characterized in that:
the second field's value has a size which varies with the number of the individual values.

28. (previously presented) The data storage device set forth in claim 27 further characterized in that:
The second field's value is a character string, the character string comprising a sequence of characters for each individual value, and separator characters separating each sequence of characters.

29. (previously presented) The data storage device set forth in claim 25 further characterized in that:
the second field's value has a size which is constant regardless of the number of the individual values.

30. (previously presented) The data storage device set forth in claim 29 further characterized in that:
the second field's value comprises a string of elements, the string of elements having an element corresponding to each potential value of the individual values that belong to the set, the presence of a particular individual value being indicated by a first value of the corresponding element and the absence of the particular individual value being indicated by a second value of the corresponding element.

31. (previously presented) The data storage device set forth in claim 25 further characterized in that:

the individual values are time values.

32. (previously presented) The data storage device set forth in claim 25 further characterized in that:

the individual values are location values.

33-48. (cancelled)

49. (previously presented) The method of aggregating a plurality of entries set forth in claim 1 wherein:

the entries belonging to the plurality indicate occurrences of an event in the database management system, the occurrences being recorded by a management service in the database management system.

50. (previously presented) The method of aggregating a plurality of entries set forth in claim 49 further comprising the step of:

deleting the plurality of entries represented by the aggregated entry.

51. (previously presented) The method of aggregating a plurality of entries set forth in claim 50 wherein:

the individual values indicate times of occurrence of the event of interest.

52. (previously presented) The method of aggregating a plurality of entries set forth in claim 50 wherein:

the individual values indicate places of occurrence of the event of interest.

53. (previously presented) The data storage device set forth in claim 25 wherein:

the entries belonging to the plurality indicate occurrences of an event in the database management system, the occurrences being recorded by a management service in the database management system.

54. (previously presented) The data storage device set forth in claim 53 wherein the code further comprises:
instructions for deleting the plurality of entries represented by the aggregated entry.

55. (previously presented) The data storage device set forth in claim 54 wherein:
the individual values indicate times of occurrence of the event of interest.

56. (previously presented) The data storage device set forth in claim 54 wherein:
the individual values indicate places of occurrence of the event of interest.

57. (previously presented) A computer system for aggregating a plurality of entries in a table in a database management system into an aggregated entry in the table or another table in the database management system, the system comprising:
a processor for making the aggregated entry, the aggregated entry representing the plurality of entries and including a first field whose value is a metric value computed from a set of individual values of a field in the plurality of entries and a second field whose set value is a representation of the set of individual values, the metric value having the property that the individual values from which the metric value was computed cannot be derived from the metric value and the representation of the individual values having the property that the individual values are derivable therefrom, so that a single entry comprises both the metric value and the set value, wherein at least some of the individual values are lost with the metric value and the individual values are not lost with the set value.

58. (previously presented) The system set forth in claim 57, wherein the processor further performs the act of:
deleting the plurality of entries represented by the aggregated entry.

59. (previously presented) The system set forth in claim 57, wherein:

the second field's value has a size which varies with the number of the individual values.

60. (previously presented) The system set forth in claim 59, wherein:

the second field's value is a character string, the character string comprising a sequence of characters for each individual member of the set, and separator characters separating each sequence of characters.

61. (previously presented) The system set forth in claim 57, wherein:

the second field's value has a size which is constant regardless of the number of individual members in the set.

62. (previously presented) The system set forth in claim 61, wherein:

the second field's value comprises a string of elements, the string of elements having an element corresponding to each potential value of the individual values that belong to the set, the presence of a particular individual value in the set being indicated by a first value of the corresponding element and the absence of the particular individual value from the set being indicated by a second value of the corresponding element.

63. (previously presented) The system set forth in claim 57, wherein:

the individual values are time values.

64. (previously presented) The system set forth in claim 57, wherein:

the individual values are location values.

65. (previously presented) The system of aggregating a plurality of entries set forth in claim 57, wherein:

the entries belonging to the plurality indicate occurrences of an event in the database management system, the occurrences being recorded by a management service in the database management system.

66. (previously presented) The system of aggregating a plurality of entries set forth in claim 65, wherein the processor further performs the act of:

deleting the plurality of entries represented by the aggregated entry.

67. (previously presented) The system of aggregating a plurality of entries set forth in claim 66, wherein:

the individual values indicate times of occurrence of the event of interest.

68. (previously presented) The system of aggregating a plurality of entries set forth in claim 66, wherein:

the individual values indicate places of occurrence of the event of interest.